This bulletin is an attempt to give members of the Society a few notes on culture and other phases of hibiscus growing that may be interesting to amateur growers. Since your Vice President is the lone editor those notes represent mostly the observations of one person, but many commercial and amateur growers, whose names are not mentioned here, have contributed through personal contact a great deal of this information. Your own personal observations will be welcomed for inclusion in later bulletins. Also, your criticism of this bulletin will be welcomed, whether by this or future editors and we hope that future issues will reflect the benefit of your advice.

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CULTURE AND CARE

Molybdenum Deficiency:
Several plants in the editors collection were showing the typical symptons of this deficiency. Plants appeared as if affected with a light application of 2-4-D weed killer. Foliage was elongated, ribbed and stiff. Blooms consisted of a single undivided petal in a trumpet shape. Sodium Molybdenate was applied (about one ounce scattered around each plant) and a nutritional spray which contained 0.25 percent of Molybdenum was also applied. Results were very satisfactory as in less than six weeks new foliage and blooms were almost normal in appearance.

Pests:
Under the head of pests, it is noted our common grey squirrel is frequently the cause of considerable damage to plants that may be attributed to other causes. These little animals seem to have a particular fondness for foliage, buds and twigs and have even been observed cutting off a large branch and taking it up a tree to be eaten at their leisure. If you notice such damage and cannot explain it, check the squirrel situation.

Nitrogen (urea):
Reports will be welcomed from users of the new high nitrogen urea type fertilizer. This product is reported to give excellent results for container plants, but the use of it on specimen yard plants should also be closely observed. The initial expense is rather high, but the once a season application to supply all nitrogen needs may prove economical. Since a continuous growth is obtained rather than in flushes, it should also result in a more compact and better shaped plant.

Top Working Old Plants:
When "top working" old plants to better varities, near perfect results are easy if a large tip cion with foliage attached is used. A long bark or skin graft is best, enclosing the whole job in a thin plastic bag. Use no wax or other sealer, just rubber bands to hold in place. Shade if necessary and remove bag after new growth is well started. Graft only a portion of the old bush at one time and work the remaining parts after the new grafts are well into full growth.